

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1285

Introduced by Assembly Member Montanez

February 22, 2005

An act to amend Section 8279.7 of the Education Code, relating to child care.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1285, as introduced, Montanez. Child care services.

Existing law declares the intent of the Legislature to assist counties in improving the retention of qualified child care employees working directly with children who receive state-subsidized child care services.

This bill would declare the further intent of the Legislature to enact legislation addressing the unique challenges of child care services in Los Angeles County.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 8279.7 of the Education Code is
2 amended to read:
3 8279.7. (a) The Legislature recognizes the importance of
4 providing quality child care services. It is, therefore, the intent of
5 the Legislature to assist counties in improving the retention of
6 qualified child care employees who work directly with children
7 who receive state subsidized child care services. *It is further the*
8 *intent of the Legislature to enact legislation addressing the*
9 *unique challenges of Los Angeles County, where an estimated*
10 *60,000 low-income children receive subsidized child care in*

1 *non-state funded child care settings and an additional 50,000*
2 *eligible children are waiting for subsidized services.*

3 (b) The funds appropriated for the purposes of this section by
4 paragraph (11) of schedule (b) of Item 6110-196-0001 of Section
5 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2000 (Ch. 52, Stats. 2000), and that are
6 described in subdivision (i) of Provision 7 of that item, shall be
7 allocated to local child care and development planning councils
8 based on the percentage of state-subsidized, center-based child
9 care funds received in that county, and shall be used to address
10 the retention of qualified child care employees in state-subsidized
11 child care centers. Additionally, funds may be allocated annually
12 thereafter for these purposes.

13 (c) The department shall develop guidelines for use by local
14 child care and development planning councils in developing
15 county plans for the expenditure of funds allocated pursuant to
16 this section. These guidelines shall be consistent with the
17 department's assessment of the current needs of the subsidized
18 child care workforce, and shall be subject to the approval of the
19 Secretary for Education and the Department of Finance. Any
20 county plan developed pursuant to these guidelines shall be
21 approved by the department prior to the allocation of funds to the
22 local child care and development planning council.

23 (d) Funds provided to a county for the purposes of this section
24 shall be used in accordance with the plan approved pursuant to
25 subdivision (c). A county with an approved plan may retain up to
26 1 percent of the county's total allocation made pursuant to this
27 section for reimbursement of administrative expenses associated
28 with the planning process.

29 (e) The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall provide an
30 annual report, no later than April 10 of each year, to the
31 Legislature, the Secretary for Education, the Department of
32 Finance, and the Governor that includes, but is not limited to, a
33 summary of the distribution of the funds by county and a
34 description of the use of the funds.